(16) ARCHITECT OR ENGINEER

Carbondale City Hall was designed by Truman I. Lacey of Binghamton, NY. Given below is the biographical sketch of Arthur Truman Lacey (the youngest son of Truman I. Lacey) that is given in Volume III of William Foote Seward's Binghamton and Broome County New York A History (New York and Chicago: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1924), p. 204. Contained in this biographical sketch is a great deal of information about Truman I. Lacey and the firm of T. I. Lacey & Son.

ARTHUR TRUMAN LACEY—The architect is so closely connected with the actual development and growth of a city that an old concern of this profession, such as Arthur Truman Lacey heads, is of special importance in considering the factors of that city's progress. The firm of T. I. Lacey & Son was founded in 1872 by Truman I. Lacey, who was one of the earliest settlers here, having come to Binghamton when it boasted of but one architect, and his first office was on the corner of Wall and Court streets.

Arthur Truman Lacey was the youngest son of Truman I. and Clara P. (Burch) Lacey, and his birth occurred May 19, 1870, in Bradford county, Pennsylvania. The father was a Civil War veteran and saw service as a member of Company C, 85th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was a native of West Auburn, Pennsylvania, and his death occurred in 1914. The mother, Clara R. (Burch) Lacey, was born in Guilford, Chenango county, New York, and died in 1910. They removed with their family to Binghamton in 1872, when Arthur Truman Lacey was an infant, and he has, accordingly, spent practically his entire lifetime in this city. He was educated in the schools here, graduating from the high school with the class of 1889.

Following his father's example in the choice of a career, he studied architecture and became associated with the firm which his father owned. In 1902 he was taken into membership in the firm, and continued from that time on to devote his entire time to the promotion of its interests. After the death of his father in 1914 the work was carried on by Arthur Truman and his sister, Genevieve Lacey, successors, under the firm name.

So many of the residences and business buildings in Binghamton have been planned and constructed by this leading firm of architects that it would not be possible to enumerate them all, but a few of the representatives ones one might mention would include the Press building, ranked as the finest office building in the city; the Security Mutual building; St. James' Church, of Johnson City; Kalurah Temple; the Eliot Spalding residence, of Hooper, New York, and many others.

Mr. Lacey is connected with a number of the leading clubs and social organizations of the city, among these being: The Binghamton Club, Automobile Club, Chamber of Commerce, and the Young Men's Christian Association. The First Baptist Church also counts him among its most valued adherents. His fraternal associations are with the Improved Order of Red Men, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, while he has attained the honor of a thirty-second degree in the Free and Accepted Masons.

In 1894 Mr. Lacey was united in marriage with Florence A. Talbot, of Broome county, and of this union four children were born, as follows: Helen, a graduate of the Binghamton High School; Harold T., a graduate of Cornell University; Truman A., who is now a student at Cornell University; and George T., a student at the Binghamton High School.

On page 322 of Volume I of Seward's Binghamton and Broome County New York A History (complete reference given above) is the following information about two buildings in Binghamton, NY, that were designed by the firm of T. I. Lacey & Son:

> In the architecture of business life we have two buildings which compare favorably with those of their size and class found anywhere in the country—the Kilmer building, and the Security Mutual building. Both are the work of T. I. Lacey & Son, architects, and are well designed and consistently carried out. The rich and elaborate marble entrance halls give promise of a handsome and substantial treatment throughout which is not disappointed. The Kilmer building is twelve stories, and the Security building ten stories high. Previous to them, the nearest approach to "sky-scraping" the city could boast, was the seven-story building at Court and State streets, originally known as the Ross building, built about 1890 by Erastus Ross.